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RECOMMENDATIONS.

Extract of a letter from Thomas Jefferson, late President of the United States, to the Author.

"I thank you, Sir, for the copy of your Geography, which you have been so kind as to send me. I have examined the statistical part, to which you particularly refer my attention, and I find it truly a valuable addition to the work, and constituting a convenient Repertory of the matters of which Tabular views are presented."

Montpelier, March 8, 1823.

J. Madison presents his respects to the Rev. Dr. Morse and to his Son, with acknowledgments for the copies of the "New System of Modern Geography," and the "New System of Geography Ancient and Modern," with which he has been favored.

He has not been able to give them a particular examination. A very cursory one has left no doubt, that each will bear a very advantageous comparison with any similar compilations; whether its merits be tested by the materials and plan of the work, or by its literary execution. "The General Views," particularly of the United States, and as amplified in the larger work, must make it extremely interesting; and the sketch of "Ancient Geography" forms a useful supplement to the smaller one. The several maps in the atlas have the appearance of more than ordinary neatness.

Messrs. Richardson & Lord,

Gentlemen—I have examined with due care and attention, your late edition of Morse's Geography. I think the work, in every respect, well adapted to the use of schools, and most cordially recommend it to the patronage of the American public. With respect, yours truly,

A. PARTRIDGE.

Military Academy, Norwich, Vt. March 25, 1823.

Extract of a letter from Rev. Frederick Bowley, Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, to the senior Editor.

"I have received with pleasure your School Geography and Atlas, and do recommend in future the use of it, in preference to any I have seen. I think it contains more useful information comprised in a small space, than any other volume of the kind I have ever met with."

Extract of a letter to the senior Author, from Rev. Amos Lyman, dated Morristown, N. J. 17th June, 1822.

"Rev. and Dear Sir—I have now only just time to say to you, that I have examined your late edition of Geography and Atlas—am pleased with it, and immediately introduced it into my Academy. I have since ordered every one that has occasion to get a Geography, to procure yours, and have determined to make use of no other. I say to you sincerely, that I like it better than any other. You have hit the nail on the head. The plan is such as pleases me. Your Atlas is admirable. I have no doubt but that it will go extensively. I recommend it above others wherever I have opportunity."

See 3d page.

COLLECTIONS,
Historical and Miscellaneous.

JULY, 1824.

MISCELLANEOUS.

FOR THE LITERARY JOURNAL.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE LAW....ITS SOURCES, &c.—No. I.

It is generally admitted, that a knowledge of the law is acquired with more difficulty in New-England than in any other part of the world. We have always been a *free* people, and the laws of a free State must be such as are adapted to the protection of the various interests to which freedom gives rise. The first settlers of New-England, though they had good reason to be dissatisfied with a part of the English system, and came here to avoid its penalties, were yet strongly attached to the common law, under which they were born and educated. They did not leave it behind them. They brought it with them; for they were much too wise to suppose, that they were able to construct a new and better system for themselves. At that time, it was not supposed they had the *right*—they certainly had not *leisure* for the dry and difficult work of codification. They had the wilderness to subdue; and what was a much more dangerous and laborious work, the savages of that wilderness to conciliate and christianize, or to subdue and conquer. The first settlers of this State seem, for the first seventeen years, (from 1623 to 1640) to have considered the law of England as the law of this land; and, during that period, no foundation was laid for any law, statute or common, of *our own*. This State (if it could then with any propriety be called such) consisted of four towns only, Dover, Portsmouth, Exeter, and Hampton, which seems, from the first, to have attached itself to Massachusetts.

Exeter was settled under a purchase from the Indians, by a sect of christians embracing peculiar and *unorthodox*, (how strange the revolutions of opinion! those who pronounced them so would be *heterodox* now) acknowledging no depend-

ance on Massachusetts, and deriving no title from the Crown. Dover and Portsmouth were settled under a title acquired from the Crown, but they had few if any features of a body politic. The proprietors, at whose expense these settlements were began, seem for a time to have entertained the impracticable idea of settling a wilderness by agents and laborers, who, when the work was done, should become tenants and pay rent. They did not consider, that a landlord three thousand miles off can collect no rent; and further, that the tenants could not afford to pay any.

Exeter, it is said, in 1638, formed a combination, chose rulers, and enacted laws in a popular assembly. Dover and Portsmouth, about the same time, attempted the same thing; but no traces of this early legislation remain. A little experience was sufficient to satisfy the three towns, that they were too weak to govern themselves. In 1641, they united themselves with Massachusetts, which had then been settled little more than ten years, and which had laws and courts of its own. During the 40 years union, those legal customs and usages which distinguished New-England from the other British colonies originated. Those customs and usages now form an essential and important part of the common law of this State; and to determine *now* what they were *then*, is a matter of no little difficulty. We know that they must be learned from the perusal of the state papers of that day—the histories of the time—the judicial records—the ‘body of liberties,’ as they then called their fundamental laws—the statutes and ordinances enacted from time to time, and which, though they have long since ceased to have any binding force as statutes, still retain their influence as essential parts of our common law. We must study moreover the genius of the people—their religious sentiments, and their prejudices and opinions on all subjects connected with law and government.

There is no doubt that a considerable part of the English common law was adopted. But it is not easy to draw the line between what was taken and what rejected. The first settlers adopted all that they deemed suitable to their condition and circumstances; but it requires much knowledge to determine *now* what was suitable *then*. During our union with Massachusetts, which then comprehended the territory of Maine, a great number of statutes, or ordinances, as they were more generally called, were enacted. Those which had been made during the first ten years, were revised by the wise men, clergymen and laymen, and were sent forth

rather for the consideration of the people, and by way of experiment, than as statutes, for they were all limited to *three years*. They were continued to 1648, when they were again revised, and with the addition of such as had been passed in the interval, were established and published. A new edition was published ten years afterwards, and a third in 1671.

New-Hampshire was separated from Massachusetts (much against the inclination of its inhabitants) by the royal proclamation, in 1679, and had a legislature of its own in 1680. A body of laws was enacted in the course of the first year. It seems that these, when sent home for the royal approbation, were disallowed in the lump. They were probably copied from those of Massachusetts; and it is well known that that colony was no favorite with the court of that genteel but worthless monarch, Charles the II. All the laws of *New-England* breathed a spirit of freedom, and indeed bore no marks of that dependance which distant provinces are supposed to owe to the parent State. Two years afterwards, another body of laws was enacted. Neither of these codes was ever printed, and we have no records of this period in the Secretary's office. The loss of these statutes is hardly to be regretted. Where they were copied from those of Massachusetts, we have the originals, and where they differed, they were a dead letter. The Massachusetts old charter was vacated and annulled by a proceeding in the English chancery, in 1684. We had no charter to be annulled.

The interval between the death of Charles II. (1685) and the revolution in 1688, when James the II. reigned, and when his minions Andross, Cranfield and Barefoote governed here, is a blank in the history of our laws and jurisprudence. It was a time of suffering, and not of law making, a time when men and not laws governed.—During these evil times, when “evil men bore sway,” New-Hampshire united herself again to Massachusetts, and remained under the protection of her wing till the cloud had passed over. She seems to have resumed her separate station soon after the new charter of Massachusetts came over in the spring of 1692; a Governor and council were appointed for this State, and the privilege granted of choosing a house of assembly. There can be no doubt that the law of New-Hampshire and Massachusetts was in the fundamentals the same at this period.

It was a remarkable circumstance, that a people who had been governed generally as freemen, and who were by no

means illiterate, should at the distance of nearly seventy years from the first settlement, be entirely destitute of what is called *written law*. In 1697, the Earl of Bellamont was appointed Governor of New-Hampshire and Massachusetts, and this practice of appointing one Governor for the two provinces continued until 1741.

Many statutes were enacted after 1692 in this State. A considerable portion of them were not allowed by the King in Council; but it is believed that things went on pretty much as they did during our union with Massachusetts. When the same Governor presided over both provinces, it may naturally be supposed that the statutes would be nearly the same, and such was the fact.

An edition of our statutes was published at Boston in 1716, by Bartholomew Green, in 60 pages folio. In 1718, 72 pages were added. The next year (1719,) 24 pages were added, and in the course of the next succeeding eight years, 16 pages more: this last completed the volume of 172 pages. These composed the bulk of our statute law at the revolution in 1775.

An edition of our statutes was printed in 1760, by Daniel Fowle, who had four years before set up the first printing press in this state. This edition seems not to have been deemed authentic; for in 1771, a complete edition of the statutes in force was printed.

In January, 1776, a temporary form of civil government was established in this State, on the recommendation of Congress. Doubts were entertained by some whether by the assumption of an independent government in January, 1776, and the declaration of independence in July of the same year, the acts and laws in force before these events, were not thereby abrogated. To remove these doubts, a statute was passed April 9, 1777, re-establishing the general system of laws.

A constitution, intended to be permanent, was framed, and came into operation in June, 1784. This was revised, and the revision took full effect in June, 1793.

The statutes, after the revolution, (1776) were printed in *folio* form till 1789, when a collection was made in *octavo*, by order of the Legislature, of all the public and some of the private laws made since the revolution. This did not meet the wishes of the public, and between that and 1792, the whole body of the statutes, ancient and modern, were revised and published in a volume in the latter year, (1792.) A new edition of this work, with the subsequent acts, was

published in 1797, and a larger and more copious edition in 1805. In 1815, a volume was published by order of the Legislature, containing all the statutes in force, and such of the repealed laws as were deemed necessary to be known, for they still govern the decisions in all cases happening while they were in force.

During the course of the last year, a second volume was published, containing all the statutes passed since 1815, with an appendix of useful state papers.

The union of the States into a confederacy created a new body of legislators—I mean the old Congress. Their acts and laws, mixed with the journal of the proceedings, are in 13 volumes. In 1789, the new Constitution of the United States came into operation, and the laws of the United States, with the constitution and the treaties made under it, are now published in 13 volumes.

So that the laws, to which the good people of this State are subject, are—

I. The Constitution of the United States; the laws of Congress made in pursuance thereof, and all treaties made under the authority of the United States. These are the supreme law of the land, and control the constitution and laws of the State where they differ. They bind the Legislature, and what is still more, the people in their collective capacity.

II. The Constitution of this State. This controls the statute and common law of the State, and repeals the common law.

III. The statutes and resolves enacted and made by the Legislature. This controls and repeals the common law.

IV. The common law, or the usages and customs. The basis of this law is FREEDOM, for it springs from the voluntary consent of the people. Whoever makes the statutes, the people make the common law.—Our common law may be referred to three sources.

1. Such parts of the common law of England as were deemed suitable to our condition.

2. Usages which insensibly grew up in the country when we were in a manner neglected by the parent State, and almost independent of it. 1630—1660.

3. The statutes, orders and ordinances which were framed by the Legislature before 1690, and which no longer bind as statutes, but which still retain their influence, because they were agreeable to the genius, manners and habits of the people, and therefore they were wise and good laws.

FOR THE LITERARY JOURNAL.

CINCINNATUS—No. CI.

GOVERNMENT.

According to the intimation at the close of my last paper, I now proceed in the further consideration of the executive council. We all know that bad appointments have been made, but few know who was the prime agent that made them. The governor lays the blame to the council in one case ; he says he was overruled by them ; and in another, the council were so divided, that nothing better could be done. The council recriminate, and charge the evil upon the governor ; they accuse him in one instance, with being obstinate and unyielding, and in another, with being so fickle and uncertain that no other appointment could be made. Though it is apparent that there has been mismanagement, yet the governor and council assign so many plausible reasons in their favor, and the facts are so often concealed, that it is sometimes difficult to decide to whom the evil should be charged. Cases of this kind have actually happened, and we have recently witnessed in the journals of the day, the friends of a governor attempting to exonerate him from the blame of certain appointments, upon the ground that he was obliged to submit to the will of the council. Though this plea cannot justify the governor, it proves that an executive council has a direct tendency to divide, weaken, and destroy the responsibility of the executive department. An artful, intriguing council will make a feeble, accommodating governor subservient to their will ; and a cunning, designing governor will make a weak council a cloak to shield him against public censure for all the bad appointments he makes.

As the governor has an absolute negative upon the council, no man can be appointed to office without his consent ; of course he is responsible, and ought to be so considered, for all the appointments made by the executive department. It is a breach of trust for a governor to consent to the appointment of a man whom he considers unfit for office ; and whenever he is guilty of such misconduct, the attempt to screen himself from public censure, by imputing the blame to the council, is evidence of a feeble intellect, or disingenuous disposition, and perhaps, both. I am sensible the governor may, in relation to an important appointment, be placed in a situation that is not only difficult, but such as would embarrass and perplex the wisest and purest mind. To illustrate this point, I will state a case that has occurred. Our superior court consists of three justices, two of whom must attend to make a quorum ; one of them dies or resigns, and the health of one of the remaining judges is so bad as to render it uncertain whether he will be able to attend ; to guard against

the evil and expense of delaying justice for half the year, it is necessary to appoint another judge. If the council, in such a case, insist upon the appointment of a man who is really unqualified for that high trust, it is the duty of the governor to withhold his consent. If they refuse to appoint a man whom the governor deems well qualified, and nominate one who has fewer qualifications for that office, the state of things may be such, as to justify him in yielding his consent to an appointment which he would not have otherwise made. This has actually happened, and may again; and it is not only a strong objection to an executive council, but renders the chief magistrate responsible for an act which the necessity of the case required him to perform.

In making appointments, the members of the council have often *private* views and *selfish* objects to effect, which though concealed from the governor, are hostile to the public interest. They may, and in fact have, made bargains with each other: *you support my friend, and I will yours.* Instances could be cited where two counsellors have declared A. was not fit for a particular office, and two other counsellors made a declaration that B. was not qualified for another office; and yet all four of those counsellors a few days after agreed to appoint them both. How can a governor safely trust the advice of such men? and how can the people expect they will serve them faithfully? "A council," says Hamilton, "to a magistrate, who is himself responsible for what he does, are generally nothing better than a clog upon his good intentions; are often the instruments and accomplices of his bad, and are always a cloak to his faults."

The council, in making appointments, have too often discovered an undue attachment to their personal friends and connexions, and a spirit of patronage and *favoritism*, equally hostile to individual merit and to the interest and security of the public. Nor have they, in the distribution of offices, been unmindful of themselves. In May, 1809, when there were but *four* counsellors, and on the very *day when their office expired*, they appointed two of their number sheriffs of the counties to which they belonged, and another of them judge of a court. I have known the election of a counsellor, in one of the counties, made solely with a view to effect the appointment of a particular man to be sheriff of that county. Where such a spirit of *selfishness and local interest* prevails, we cannot expect the public interest will be their principal object in making appointments.

The *expence* of the council is an object that on this occasion ought not to be omitted. Their first session commences with the meeting of the legislature, and always continues as long and sometimes longer: and when there is a second session of the legislature, the council attend, and besides these, they usually have two, and sometimes more sessions each year. Their fees for travel and attendance make a considerable item in our expenditures, and of course increase the amount of our annual taxes.

In every point of view in which I have been able to consider the council, and from a careful examination of their proceedings, I am convinced our system of government would be not only more simple and less expensive, but more secure and perfect, without a council than it is with one. The responsibility would then rest solely on the governor, and he would have no means to evade its authority. One man can be more effectually watched than numbers ; and when acting alone he cannot have so great a mass of influence as when associated with others.— The state is not so large, but that a man qualified for governor would have the means of appointing those who are best qualified for office : and if he did not appoint such, he would know and feel that it was owing to his own negligence, or, what is worse, to the influence of improper motives.

“ The sole and undivided responsibility of one man,” says Hamilton, “ will naturally beget a livelier sense of duty, and a more exact regard to reputation. He will, on this account, feel himself under stronger obligations, and more interested to investigate with care, the qualities requisite to the stations to be filled, and to prefer with impartiality the persons who may have the fairest pretensions to them. He will have fewer personal attachments to gratify than a body of men who may be each supposed to have an equal number, and will be so much the less liable to be misled by the sentiments of friendship and affection. There is nothing so apt to agitate the passions of mankind as personal considerations, whether they relate to ourselves, or others, who are to be the objects of our choice or preference. Hence in every exercise of the power of appointing to offices by an assembly of men, we must expect to see a full display of all the private and party likings and dislikes, partialities and antipathies, attachments and animosities, which are felt by those who compose the assembly. The choice which may at any time happen to be made under such circumstances, will of course be the result either of a victory gained by one party over the other, or of a compromise between the parties. In either case, the intrinsic merit of the candidate will too often be out of sight. In the first, the qualifications best adapted to uniting the suffrages of the party will be more considered than those which fit the person for the station. In the last, the coalition will commonly turn upon some interested equivalent. *Give us the man we wish for this office, and you shall have the one you wish for that.* This will be the usual condition of the bargain. And it will rarely happen that the advancement of the public service, will be the object either of party victories, or of party negotiations.” The same distinguished statesman in another place observes, *that he rarely met with an intelligent man from any of the states, who did not admit, as the result of experience, that the unity of the executive was one of the best distinguishing features in government.*

Though I consider our executive council unnecessary, and that it occasions more evil than good to society, yet it may be doubtful whether it would be prudent to vest the governor with the sole authority of making the appointments. The system, which appears to me would produce the most good and exclude the greatest evil, would be, to give the sole, exclusive right of nomination to the governor, but that he should not make appointments without the advice and consent of the senate, except when a vacancy should happen in the recess of the senate; he should, in such cases appoint, and the person so appointed should hold his office to the end of the next session. This system the United States have adopted, and experience has proved its wisdom and usefulness. If the governor then made a bad nomination, the blame would rest on him alone; but if he nominated a person well qualified for office, and the senate refused their assent to his appointment, the blame would not fall on him, but them. If an ill appointment should be made, no man could be at a loss to determine on whom, and to what degree, the opprobrium and disgrace of it should be inflicted; it would fall upon the governor for making the nomination, and on the senate for advising and consenting to it. The duties and responsibility of each would be marked with precision, and neither would be able to impute their errors to the misconduct of the other.

The power of the senate to negative nominations, would check the *favoritism* of the governor; make him more cautious and vigilant in nominating men to office; and it would relieve the people from the charge of supporting an executive council. Though the retrenchment of expence is not the greatest benefit of such a system, it is too considerable to be neglected. The average annual expense of the council for three years in succession, an account of which I have before me, was seven hundred and ten dollars. If to this sum we add the annual payments, and compound interest at the rate of six per cent. from the times of payment, in less than sixty-six years the annual interest would then be equal to the present state tax raised for the support of every branch of our government. Should the council be discontinued, and no such fund formed, the money would be left in the hands of our citizens, as well as the expence of collecting it, and to those who are prudent and frugal would be equally profitable to them. It is with a state as an individual; its ease and prosperity are more dependant on the expenditure, than on the acquisition of money. And in a country where the charge of government is *increasing*, it is an object worthy of the statesman, to reduce the expenditure of public money wherever it can be done without impairing public security.

GINCINNATUS.

May 6, 1824.

TALES OF THE REVOLUTION.....No. I.

BY AN OLD SOLDIER.

A few weeks since, Messrs. Editors, I accidentally met with a stray number of your *Collections*. It was the first I had seen, though I recollect to have heard the publication frequently spoken of in terms of approbation. I do assure you, that I heartily commend your plan, and wish you to send me two complete sets of the work. Direct to me at * * * *, and when the next "pension day" comes round, the *Old Soldier* will not forget you. I send for two copies, though I shall perhaps find time to read but one; for my intention is not to be behind my younger neighbors in works of charity and benevolence and public spirit. Now in all the little busy village where I live, containing two or three hundred inhabitants, under the special protection of two or three lawyers, half a dozen justices and physicians, and one "old continental"—there is not a single literary work taken or read, excepting one copy of the *Miss. Herald*, which our honest deacon subscribed for a year or two ago, and soon after stopped, but which still comes to him, to his special annoyance. Newspapers there are at every man's door: some take them—some receive, and a few read them. Some take half a dozen of different kinds—others, to shew their spirit, take as many of one kind! Now I am disposed, not merely to patronize your useful miscellany, but to send you occasionally, a story of old times, told in my homely way, which, if you please, you may publish, correcting and supplying my errors and omissions. I am growing old, gentle sirs; but the cheerfulness of age is as rich in its consolations, as was the strength of youth and manhood in hopes and prospects. And as hardly any thing is more pleasing to an old man than to talk of times and scenes that are past, I presume you will not object to listening now and then to the stories of an

OLD SOLDIER.

FRANK LILLY.

Jonathan Riley was a sergeant in the — regiment, had served under Gen. Amherst in the old French war, and was with the provincials at the taking of Havana. This man was often selected for dangerous and trying situations, and his uniform courage and presence of mind ensured him success. He was at length placed on a recruiting station, and in a short period enlisted a great number of men. Among his recruits was Frank Lilly;

a boy about 16 years of age, a weak and puny lad, who would not perhaps, have passed muster, were we not greatly in want of men. The soldiers made this boy the butt of their ridicule, and many a sorry joke was uttered at his expense. They told him to *swear his legs*, in other words to get them insured. Yet there was something about him interesting, and at times he discovered a spirit beyond his years. To this boy, for some unknown cause, Riley became greatly attached, and seemed to pity him from the bottom of his heart. Often on our long and fatiguing marches, dying almost from want, harrassed incessantly by the enemy, did Riley carry the boy's knapsack for miles, and many a crust for the poor wretch was saved from his scanty allowance. But Frank Lilly's resolution was once the cause of saving the whole detachment. The American army was encamped at Elizabethtown. The soldiers stationed about four miles from the main body, near the bay that separated the continent from Staten-Island, forming an advance picket guard, were chosen from a southern regiment, and were continually deserting. It was a post of some danger, as the young ambitious British officers, or experienced sergeants, often headed parties that approached the shore in silence during the night and attacked our outposts. Once they succeeded in surprising and capturing an officer and twenty men, without the loss of a man on their part. Gen. Washington determined to relieve the forces near the bay, and our regiment was the one from which the selection was made. The arrangement of our guard, as near as I can recollect, was as follows :

A body of 250 men were stationed a short distance inland. In advance of these were several outposts, consisting of an officer and thirty men each. The sentinels were so near as to meet in their rounds, and were relieved in every two hours.— It chanced one dark and windy night, that Lilly and myself were sentinels on adjoining posts. All the sentinels were directed to fire on the least alarm, and retreat to the guard, where we were to make the best defence we could, until supported by the detachment in our rear. In front of me was a strip of woods, and the bay was so near that I could hear the dashing of the waves. It was near midnight, and occasionally a star to be seen through the flying clouds. The hours passed heavily and cheerlessly away. The wind at times roared through the adjoining woods with astonishing violence. In a pause of the storm, as the wind died suddenly away, and was heard only moaning at a distance, I was startled by an unusual noise in the woods before me. Again I listened attentively, and imagined that I heard the heavy tread of a body of men, and the rattling of cartridge boxes. As I met Lilly, I informed him of my suspicions. All had been quiet in the rounds, but he would keep a good watch and fire on the least alarm. We separated, and I had marched but a few rods, when I heard the following conversation. "Stand." The answer was

from a speaker rapidly approaching, and in a low constrained voice. "Stand yourself, and you shall not be injured. If you fire, you are a dead man. If you remain where you are, you shall not be harmed. If you move, I will run you through."

Scarcely had he spoken, when I saw the flash, and heard the report of Lilly's gun. I saw a black mass rapidly advancing, at which I fired, and with all the sentinels retreated to the guard, consisting of thirty men commanded by an ensign. An old barn had served them for a guard-house, and they barely had time to turn out, and parade in the road, as the British were getting over a fence within six rods of us, to the number of eighty, as we supposed. We fired upon them, and retreated in good order towards the detachment in the rear. The enemy, disappointed of their expected prey, pushed us hard, but we were soon reinforced, and they in their turn were compelled to retreat, and we followed them at their heels to the boats. We found the next morning that poor Frank Lilly, after discharging his musket, was followed so close by the enemy that he was unable to get over a fence, and he was run through with a bayonet. It was apparent, however, that there had been a violent struggle. But in front of his post was a British non-commissioned officer, one of the best formed men I ever saw, shot directly through the body. He died in great agonies, as the ground was torn up with his hands, and he had literally bitten the dust. We discovered long traces of blood, but never knew the extent of the enemy's loss. Poor Riley took Lilly's death so much to heart that he never afterwards was the man he previously had been. He became indifferent and neglected his duty. There was something remarkable in the manner of his death. He was tried for his life, and sentenced to be shot. During the trial and subsequently, he discovered an indifference truly astonishing. On the day of his execution, the fatal cap was drawn over his eyes, and he was caused to kneel in front of the whole army. Twelve men were detailed for the purpose of executing him, but a pardon had been granted, unknown to Riley, in consequence of his age and services; they had no cartridges. The word "ready" was given, and the cocking of guns could be distinctly heard. At the word "fire," Riley fell dead upon his face, when not a gun had been discharged.

It was said that Frank Lilly was the fruit of one of Riley's old love affairs with a beautiful and unfortunate girl. There was a sad story concerning her fate, but I am old now and have forgotten it.

OLD SOLDIER.

Note by the Editors.—We recollect to have seen the preceding story in some newspaper published a few years since, with a little variation. It is still worth re-printing; and we insert it with the greater cheerfulness, knowing that the "Old Soldier" can furnish many original anecdotes of his own connected with events of the Revolution.

NEW-ENGLAND SUPERSTITIONS.

AUNT RACHEL'S CURSE.

The good people of the Old Colony have from time immemorial been more or less influenced by the predictions and warnings of some old sybil, who pretended to peep into fate through the bottom of a tea-cup, and discern the movements of the heavens by the settling of her coffee grounds.

One of these beldams had for many years inhabited a hovel, which had before been distinguished in the more dignified use of a fish house, seated near the extremity of a promontory, which overhung the centre of Plymouth Bay. The ease with which she could derive subsistence from the shores, and, in the season, from neighboring fish flakes, had probably induced the Pythoness to establish herself in so dreary a domicile, and the profit which she derived in predicting fair winds and favorable weather, did much towards conciliating the affection of the owner of her otherwise unpromising habitation.

So long and so successfully had Rachel foretold to the inquiring seamen the weather of the coming day, (an art which those who live on the seaboard know to be easily acquired) that they almost felt that she had an influence in the fulfilment of her own predictions, and not one was ever known to calculate a voyage into the outer bay, without consulting "*Aunt Rachel*" upon the morrow's weather, nor on their return did they neglect to leave a portion of their *takings*, for a reward to her who had predicted, or perhaps procured, their success.

There were, indeed, a few in the village, who affected to deride the talents of Rachel, and sneer at those who were influenced by her predictions; but it is said that even these, the minister, school-master, and physician, were always able to find an excuse for delaying any expedition, the event of which she might have pronounced against. And I myself recollect when a certain ordination lacked one of its council by the officious boldness of the prophetess of the storm.

The pleasure which Rachel found in the solitude of night, in watching the flux of the sea as it cast its intrusive wave further and further upon the sand, served, if indeed any thing was necessary, to add to the awe with which her neighbors contemplated her character.

She was met in one of her midnight rambles by a party preparing for an early departure for the outer Bay fishing, who anxiously inquired the probability of the morrow's

weather. "Fair," said she, "fair—to-morrow sees neither rain nor wind; the minister must have less corn in his field, to make his prayers available." "But Aunt Rachel, (they always put the last syllable to her name when they spoke to her at night,) do you see yon cloud in the west?" "What have I to do with west or south?" said she. "I have promised fair, though you might have chosen a better day than *Friday*, considering you take but one voyage in a year." Just then a large vessel hove in sight. By the pale light of the moon, it was impossible to distinguish the class to which she belonged. "She will come in," said Rachel, "and for no good—we do not hear the sound of church bells at midnight for nothing." "But that was Plymouth clock striking twelve," said one of the company. "Do we hear clocks," said she, "four miles against the wind? and Plymouth clock, too, a wooden rattle, with scarcely more work in it than the windlass of yonder chebacco boat?"

Before the party had prepared for their departure, the vessel, a large brig, had *come to*, and anchored near the shore. This vessel, owned in that place, and loaded with sugar by a Boston merchant, had put in the harbor to effect some trifling repairs to her spars. One only of the crew was a native of the village, and he, on the following day, conducted his messmates to Rachel's hovel, to inquire into the prospects of their voyage.

"John Burgis," said the auguess to her townsman, as the party crossed her threshold, "have you done well in entering the Betsey? The poor man's curse is on her. Think you the vessel paid for in exchange notes will make a voyage?" "But, Aunt Rachel," interrupted the sailor, evidently wishing a better reception for his comrades, "we did not build her." "If you would not have her fortune, flee her company. And is it for this, John, (continued the old woman) is it for this that your father, the Deacon, has prayed, that your mother has wept, that the blessing of the minister was given to your departure, to be found with wretches like these, land sharks, moon cursers!" "Avast there, old granny," said one of the strangers, "give us none of your slack, or we'll put a stopper upon your gab." A beam of fire seemed to flash from the old woman's eyes as she rose from her bench, and threw down the coarse table on which she had been leaning. "You are known," said she; "there's not a mother's son of you that was not swaddled in the ruins of a wreck." "D—d hag!" said the oldest—but interruption was vain; the worst feelings of

Rachel were roused, and her most painful recollections excited; the volubility of her tongue expressed the intensity of her feelings. "There's not a *moon curser* of you all that has not braved the north easter to fix a light upon a pole to mislead the pilot, and wreck his ship for depredation, when you would not wet a foot to save a seaman's life. And who, you children of devils incarnate, who but your fathers and mothers fastened a lantern to a horse's head, and thus in a storm wrecked the brig upon your cursed sands that left me childless and a widow? May he who rides upon the pale horse be your guide, and you be of the number 'who follow with him.'"

The last imprecation scarcely reached the ears of the objects of her curse. They went to their vessel, and meditated a revenge every way worthy of the conduct Rachel had charged them with.

The next morning, about 10 o'clock, the villagers were alarmed by a strong light at or near the wharf. In less than twenty minutes every inhabitant, but the infant and decrepid, was at the place, and Rachel, half wrapped in the remains of an old sail, which had served as a bed curtain, was seen rushing from her burning hovel. No language can do justice to the looks and gestures of this infuriated wretch. She ran round the scene of conflagration with the actions of a fury. Her grey hair was flying in the wind, and as she stood between the strong light of the blaze and the spectators, its upturned points seemed tipt with living flame.

The next morning the brig prepared for sailing, and many of the inhabitants, either to see the ruins of Rachel's hut, or to watch the vessel's departure, flocked to the wharf, although it was Sunday.

The brig got under way, with a fine wind against the tide, and as she made her way smoothly down the channel, the attention of the spectators was invited to Rachel. She had seated herself upon a rock, which elevated its top considerably above the waves, although it was entirely surrounded by the tide. The hollow moan which she had uttered, was lost in the rushing of the waves upon the pebbly shore; and, indeed, she had scarcely been noticed in the bustle of preparing the vessel. When she was observed, the owner of the vessel attempted to offer her some consolation for the loss of her house—she replied, without once withdrawing her eyes from the receding vessel, "You need not comfort me—every barn could give me shelter, if I should need it; but in three days I shall be tenanted in the narrow house

which yonder wretches cannot burn. But you ! who shall console you for the loss of your brig ? Think you she can swim loaded with the curses of the poor, and my curses which have never yet been vain ?" " She has passed *Brown's Island*," said the owner, evidently affected by the vehemence of her manner, " and that is the worst shoal in the Bay." Rachel grew more furious as the brig passed in safety any point or shoal which was considered peculiarly dangerous, and as the breeze freshened, her matted hair floated out like streamers upon the wind, her long bony arms were extended with imprecating gestures, and she appeared, as she poured out her maledictions on the authors of her calamities, like the evil spirit of the ocean chiding forth the storms as ministers of her vengeance.

When the vessel had passed *Beach Point*, the last obstruction to navigation in the harbor, and forming the extreme southern Cape, which protected the whole Bay, the owner, relieved from the anxiety which the difficulty of the navigation naturally inspired, and which, perhaps, the ravings of Rachel increased, turned to the old woman, and again offered to console her for the loss of her house, and even tendered the use of another habitation ; but she was raving in all the impotence of disappointed madness, her voice was inarticulate, she foamed at the mouth, and howled in the most demoniac accents. Her face, and swollen eyes, that seemed almost starting from their sockets, were bent upon the single object of her curses, when suddenly her voice ceased, and she leaned forward in the very ecstasy of expectation. The eyes of the company following the bent of hers, were fixed on the brig ; her sails were shivering in the wind, and all seemed hurry and confusion upon the deck.

In a few moments she slowly sunk from the view of the spectators, and nothing of her was to be seen but a part of her top-gallant mast standing above the waves.

Rachel pitched forward into the water as she saw the vessel sink, and, as people were engaged in preparing boats to go to the vessel, she died unnoticed.

The brig, which had struck upon a sunken and unknown rock, was afterwards raised with the loss of nearly her whole cargo and one man, the very one, it is said, who had put fire to the house.

The body of Rachel was found, and buried on the spot where her house had stood. The rock on which the vessel struck is now called *RACHEL'S CURSE*—and the grave on the promontory serves to this day as a land-mark for the channel.—*Phil. Union.*

ORIGIN OF YANKEE DOODLE.

In looking over an old file of the *Albany Statesman*, edited by N. H. CARTER, Esq. we met with the following interesting note, respecting the origin of the tune *Yankee Doodle*—the words of which were published in the Collections for May.

It is known as a matter of history, that in the early part of 1755, great exertions were made by the British ministry, at the head of which was the illustrious Earl of Chatham, for the reduction of the French power in the provinces of the Canadas. To carry the object into effect, General Amherst, referred to in the letters of Junius, was appointed to the command of the British army in North Western America; and the British colonies in America were called upon for assistance, who contributed with alacrity their several quotas of men, to effect the grand object of British enterprise. It is a fact still in the recollection of some of our oldest inhabitants, that the British army lay encamped, in the summer of 1755, on the eastern bank of the Hudson, a little south of the city of Albany, on the ground now belonging to John I. Van Rensselaer, Esq. To this day, vestiges of their encampment remain; and after a lapse of sixty years, when a great proportion of the actors of those days have passed away like shadows from the earth, the inquisitive traveller can observe the remains of the ashes, the places where they boiled their camp kettles. It was this army, that, under the command of Abercrombie, was foiled, with a severe loss, in the attack on Ticonderoga, where the distinguished Howe fell at the head of his troops, in an hour that history has consecrated to his fame. In the early part of June, the eastern troops began to pour in, company after company, and such a motley assemblage of men never before thronged together on such an occasion, unless an example may be found in the ragged regiment of Sir John Falstaff, of right merry and facetious memory. It would, said my worthy ancestor, who relates to me the story, have relaxed the gravity of an anchorite, to have seen the descendants of the Puritans, marching through the streets of our ancient city, to take their station on the left of the British army—some with long coats, some with short coats, and others with no coats at all, in colours as varied as the rainbow, some with their hair cropped like the army of Cromwell, and others with wigs whose curls flowed with grace

around their shoulders. Their march, their accoutrements, and the whole arrangement of the troops, furnished matter of amusement to the wits of the British army. The musick played the airs of two centuries ago, and the *tout ensemble*, upon the whole, exhibited a sight to the wondering strangers that they had been unaccustomed to in their own land. Among the club of wits that belonged to the British army, there was a physician attached to the staff, by the name of Doctor Shackburg, who combined with the science of the surgeon, the skill and talents of a musician. To please brother Jonathan, he composed a tune, and with much gravity recommended it to the officers, as one of the most celebrated airs of martial musick. The joke took to the no small amusement of the British corps. Brother Jonathan exclaimed it was *nation fine*, and in a few days nothing was heard in the provincial camp but the air of *Yankee Doodle*. Little did the author or his coadjutors then suppose, that an air made for the purpose of levity and ridicule, should ever be marked for such high destinies; in twenty years from that time, our national march inspired the hearts of the heroes of Bunker Hill, and less than thirty, Lord Cornwallis and his army marched into the American lines to the tune of *Yankee Doodle*.

Anecdote.—Riches may be entailed, and nobility may become hereditary. Wit and wisdom can never be made their looms. There are few names more respectable among the patriarchs of Massachusetts, than Governor Dudley and Judge Sewall; yet the former had a daughter, who could scarce keep out of fire and water, and the latter a son of equal abilities. The prudence of the old gentlemen intermarried these wiseacres. In due time after the marriage, Judge Sewall, then sitting at the council board in Boston, received a letter informing him that his daughter-in-law was delivered of a fine son; he communicated the billet to the Governor, who after perusing it, observed, with an arch severity, "brother Sewall, I am thinking how we shall contrive to prevent this grandson of ours from being as great a fool as his father." "I believe," retorted Judge Sewall, "I believe we must not let him suck his mother."

BIOGRAPHICAL.

SIR BENJAMIN THOMPSON.

BENJAMIN THOMPSON, though not a native of this town, [Concord] spent several years of usefulness in the place. He was born at Woburn, Massachusetts, March 26, 1753. His father died while he was very young, leaving him to the care of a guardian. He received a common school education, and was placed first with Dr. Hay, a physician of Woburn, where, during the intervals of study, he amused himself in making surgical instruments, &c., which he finished in a handsome style. He was next placed as clerk in a store at Salem. His aversion to this business was soon manifested, and he was oftener found with a penknife, file and gimblet under the counter, than with his pen and books in the counting-room. He was fond of the study of chemistry, and enthusiastic in his devotion to mechanics and mathematics. At Salem, he undertook to prepare some fire works, or rockets. While pounding the ingredients, it was supposed a particle of sand, treacherously concealed in the mass, caused a scintillation, and the whole exploded in his face and bosom. The injury which he experienced was severe, and added to a temporary loss of sight, the skin of his face and bosom was taken away with the bandages. Such an apprentice, it might easily be perceived, would not answer the purposes of a merchant.

Young Thompson continued his studies and philosophical inquiries with diligence. Among other things, he attempted to solve that great desideratum—*perpetual motion*. After residing at Salem and Boston about two years, he returned to his mother in Woburn, his friends receiving him with unwelcome pity, impressed with a belief that he would never fix his mind upon any regular employment, by which he could gain a support.

Through the kindness of a friend, Thompson was admitted to the philosophical lectures, commenced at Cambridge about the year 1769 ; this was a rich feast to him, and he zealously improved his opportunity, making rapid advances in his favorite studies. In 1772, he commenced school-keeping in Bradford, Massachusetts ; and soon after removed to this town. He taught school here with success ; and afterwards married Mrs. Sarah Rolfe, widow of B. Rolfe, Esq. and daughter of the first minister of Concord, by whom he had one daughter, lately living in France. Pleased with

parade and the beau monde, and enjoying from the goodness of nature all the personal recommendations, which attract the admiration of the world, he never appeared at public entertainments, or in fashionable circles, without being respectfully noticed. In an excursion, which he made from Concord to Portsmouth, with his lady, to be present at a military review or some holiday, his genteel appearance and manly, impressive address attracted the observation of many, and among others he was particularly noticed by the governor, Wentworth, who invited him to his party, and never spoke of Mr. Thompson but with delight. The civil and friendly manner, in which he had thus been treated by the Governor, was not mere etiquette, as was sufficiently manifested a little time afterwards, by having the offer of a Major's commission. This mark of esteem and confidence was peculiarly gratifying to Mr. Thompson, as he possessed a genius and taste for military operations.

Mr. Thompson lived with his wife about two years; when the revolution commencing, and being a staunch friend of the government, he was obliged to quit his family and rural residence; and he retired within the lines of the British army. In October, 1775, he went to Rhode-Island; embarked for Boston harbor; and in January following, sailed for England. On arriving in London, he was introduced to Lord Germaine, (afterwards Lord Sackville) then presiding at the head of the American department, who conceived a warm friendship for him. In his office, he enjoyed an honorable post, until, nearly at the close of the contest, he was sent over to New York; raised a regiment of dragoons; obtained the provincial rank of lieutenant colonel, and became entitled to half-pay, which he received till his death.

After his return to England, in 1784, the King conferred upon him the honor of knighthood. This event was a prelude to public honors elsewhere. Sir Benjamin Thompson had become acquainted with the minister of one of the most respectable German princes. This, together with his growing greatness, induced his Serene Highness the Elector Palatine, reigning Duke of Bavaria, to invite him into his service, and honorable terms were proposed to him. He applied for, and obtained the King's permission to proceed to Munich. Here he soon obtained considerable influence in public affairs—was instrumental in the introduction of various reforms in the police—and enjoying the confidence and patronage of the Prince, he had an opportunity to re-

duce to practice his schemes of economy and public improvement. He was soon raised to the highest military rank, and created a Count of the Empire. The remembrance of his native land, and of his youthful enjoyments in this town, induced him to add to his title that of *Rumford*. Mendicity had become a public calamity in many of the German cities, and threatened the most alarming consequences. Conceiving the project of applying a remedy, and having taken the proper measures, Count Rumford, at a given day and hour, accompanied by several military officers, and a body of troops, issued orders for seizing all the beggars at Munich; and being determined to obviate the possibility of disgrace, attached to such a measure, he began by arresting the first proper object with his own hands. No sooner had he done this, than the officers and men, without making any scruple or difficulty whatever, cleared the streets with promptness and success; but at the same time with all imaginable good nature—so that in the course of a single day, not a beggar was to be seen in the whole range of the metropolis. But to sweep away the whole mendicant tribe, would have done nothing effectual, had not houses of industry been opened for their constant employment, and wholesome viands been procured them. His scheme succeeded admirably. By active exertions, he introduced various manufactures, and thus affording employment to the poorer classes, prevented a renewal of former scenes of indolence, suffering and vice. Wherever he went, his schemes for the public advantage were well received; and his fame, as a philosopher and philanthropist, continued to increase. He received many favors from the sovereigns of the continent. The Elector Palatine created him a Count, and procured for him the order of St. Stanislaus, from the King of Poland; made him a knight, chamberlain, privy counsellor of state, lieutenant-general in his service, as Duke of Bavaria, colonel of his regiment of artillery, and commander-in-chief of the general staff of his army. He was also honored by all the learned societies of Europe, and of his native country. But these high-sounding titles were mere baubles, when compared to his just fame as a philosopher. He made liberal bequests to different institutions in his native country; and died at his country seat of Auteuil, France, where he had spent the latter years of his life, in 1814. An eloquent eulogy on his character was read before the Institute of France, by M. Cuvier, Jan. 9, 1815. in which a just view is taken of his various discoveries in science, and of his personal exertions, and his fame.

Little did his friends, who witnessed with sorrow his juvenile pranks, his disregard of any regular business, anticipate his future fame. Little did the scholars who attended to his instructions in this village in 1773-4, and who were sometimes amused with his athletic exercises, and his odd experiments—dream that their master was to be clothed with the stars of princes, and acquire a fame that should be lasting and honorable. While contemplating his character, we do not stop to inquire the motives which induced him to abandon the cause of his native country; but reflect, that, though driven from her shores, and grown illustrious amongst her enemies, he yet bequeathed to her institutions his estate, to her citizens his fame.—*Moore's Annals of Concord, N. H.*

DR. EZRA CARTER.

Dr. EZRA CARTER, of Concord, N. H. died Sept. 17, 1767, at the age of 48. He was a native of South-Hampton, in this State; studied medicine with Dr. Ordway, of Salisbury, Mass. and settled in this place about 1740. He was a good scholar, though not liberally educated—a skilful practitioner, and a man universally beloved. Soon after his removal here, he was honored by the inhabitants with civil trusts, which he executed with zealous fidelity. It is to be regretted that of Dr. Carter, as well as of others who lived at a later day, so few particulars can be collected. Enough, however, is known to warrant the assertion, that few men excelled him in a benevolent spirit and good humored exertions to promote the peace and welfare of society. He was a man of wit and pleasantry, and when called to visit the sick and desponding, never failed to administer, with his remedies for the body, a cordial to the mind. Dr. Carter, though frequently menaced by the Indians, never suffered from their attacks. About the time of the Bradley massacre, he had gathered into winrows his hay then cut, on the plat of ground extending on the west of the street, near the site of the Capitol. During the night, several Indians secreted themselves in the hay, intending to surprise the Doctor on the following morning. Providentially, a storm of rain commenced early in the morning and continued for several days with little abatement, during which the Indians retired. After peace was restored, the Indians informed the doctor of their meditated attack, and that conceiving the Great Spirit to have sent the rain for his shelter, they dared not remain. On the 10th of November, of the same year, (1746) a Mr. Estabrooks came for the doctor to visit a patient. Through

some difficulty in catching his horse, the doctor did not immediately follow Estabrooks. In a very short time, the alarm was given that Estabrooks was killed, and a party proceeding on the road after him, found his body near the path. This was one of the last acts of Indian hostility in this section of the country. On a certain occasion, Dr. Carter was called to visit a sick family in Bow. Added to their other sorrows, poverty had thrown around them her tatters and rags. Disease is ever loth to quit such company. The family were a long time sick—the doctor was their constant attendant—and on their recovery, the poor man felt new troubles coming upon him. “How, doctor,” said the unhappy man, “am I to pay you for all your kindness, your attention and medicine? You see here a large family, destitute of every thing, save the bare necessities of life.” “I have been faithful to you,” replied the doctor, “and am I not entitled to a reward?” “You are, doctor, oh, you are!” said the trembling wife, “but do wait a little—we can’t pay you now.” “I can inform you, my good friends,” said the inexorable physician, “that I am *knowing* to your having property enough to satisfy my demands—and moreover, that I shall *have it* before leaving the house.” The poor family were thunderstruck—they knew that no friendly feelings subsisted between the proprietors of Rumford and Bow—but had always heard the doctor applauded as a man of benevolence and mercy. They knew not what to do. At this moment, away scampered a flock of kittens across the room, which the doctor seeing, caught one of them and put it in his pocket. “I told you I should have my pay, (said the doctor)—I have got it.—Good bye, and God bless you!” Many anecdotes of this kind are related of him; and one of the last acts of his life, was equally noble. Just before his decease, he looked over his accounts, filled out receipts against all poor persons, who were indebted to him, with directions that his executors should deliver them to those concerned immediately after his death. This was accordingly done.—*Moore’s Annals.*

GOV. BELCHER.

JONATHAN BELCHER, governor of Massachusetts and New-Hampshire, was the son of the honorable Andrew Belcher, of Cambridge, one of his majesty’s council in the province of Massachusetts Bay, who was born about the year 1618. His father took peculiar care in regard to the education of this son, on whom the hopes of the family were fixed. He

was graduated at Harvard college in 1699. While a member of this institution his open and pleasant conversation, joined with his manly and generous conduct, conciliated the esteem of all his acquaintance. Not long after the termination of his collegial course, he visited Europe, that he might enrich his mind by his observations upon the various manners and characters of men, and might return, furnished with that useful knowledge, which is gained by intercourse with the world.

During an absence of six years from his native country, he was preserved from those follies, into which inexperienced youth are frequently drawn, and he even maintained a constant regard to that holy religion, of which he had early made a profession. He was every where treated with the greatest respect. The acquaintance which he formed with the princess Sophia and her son, afterwards king George II., laid the foundation of his future honors. After his return from his travels, he lived in Boston in the character of a merchant with great reputation. He was chosen a member of the council, and the general assembly sent him as an agent of the province to the British court in the year 1729.

After the death of governor Burnet, he was appointed by his majesty to the government of Massachusetts and New-Hampshire, in 1730. In this station he continued eleven years. His style of living was elegant and splendid, and he was distinguished for hospitality. By the depreciation of the currency his salary was much diminished in value, but he disdained any unwarrantable means of enriching himself, though apparently just and sanctioned by his predecessors in office. He had been one of the principal merchants of New-England, but he quitted his business on his accession to the chair of the first magistrate. Having a high sense of the dignity of his commission, he was determined to support it, even at the expense of his private fortune. Frank and sincere, he was extremely liberal in his censures both in conversation and letters. This imprudence in a public officer gained him enemies, who were determined on revenge. He also assumed some authority, which had not been exercised before, though he did not exceed his commission. These causes of complaint, together with a controversy respecting a fixed salary, which had been transmitted to him from his predecessors, and his opposition to the land bank company, finally occasioned his removal. His enemies were so inveterate and so regardless of justice

and truth, that as they were unable to find real grounds for impeaching his integrity, they forged letters for the purpose of his ruin. On being superseded, he repaired to court, where he vindicated his character and conduct, and exposed the base designs of his enemies. He was restored to the royal favor, and was promised the first vacant government in America. This vacancy occurred in the province of New-Jersey, where he arrived in 1747, and where he spent the remaining years of his life. In this province, his memory has been held in deserved respect.

He enlarged the charter of Princeton college, and was its chief patron and benefactor. Even under the growing infirmities of age, he applied himself with his accustomed assiduity and diligence to the high duties of his office. He died at Elizabeth-Town, August 31, 1757, aged seventy-six years. His body was brought to Cambridge, Massachusetts, where it was entombed.

[Through the kindness of a friend at Portsmouth, who has granted us the loan of a mass of original papers, we are enabled to present extracts from the Correspondence of Gov. Belcher, and others. The reader who is acquainted with the history of the period to which these letters relate, will understand the allusions so frequently made in them, under fictitious names, to the most conspicuous men then figuring in the province. Judging from the samples before us, it would appear that political intrigues were quite as fashionable a hundred years since, as they are now.]

Extracts from the Correspondence of Gov. Belcher, &c.

Gov. Belcher to Secretary Waldron, dated Boston, August 3, 1737. [Extract.] "You say your committee's demand is lean and naked, without argument. The notion of their west line is so trite, that it's not worth a thought; nor what they may say about Province of Main. If all the rest of the world run mad, and turn fools, I hope you'll keep in your senses, and not be cajoled into any of their wild fagaries."

Mr. Waldron to Gov. Belcher, Sept. 24, 1747. [Extract.]
 * * * * * "I don't mention particulars of our wretched administration, because it would be tedious, and to no purpose, but to surprise you with unparalleled instances of folly and iniquity; indeed, the lamentable condition we are in, cannot be described, nor known, but by those who feel it. The aptest similitude that I can think of, to represent our case by, is that of a field of battle, after the fight is ended—the common people being compared to the carcasses, and

those who are chief in power, to the vultures and ravens glutting on the carnage."

Same to same, March 10, 1748. [Extract.] "It is generally expected, both at Boston and here, that the *Don* will soon be superseded. The candidates for the succession are, *K. H—y, Rodomontado* and *Sapling*. The first, I have reason to think, has consented to the exchange of a thousand *yellow-boys*, and will go further, if need require. The second is more insignificant than when he had a *Lady Topsail* to counsel and guide him. The third, I know, has ordered 7 or 800 guineas certain, and his friend, who is to manage for him, is *K. Bethell, Esq.* with a hundred thousand pounds sterling, and member of Parliament for London, who wrote him in May or June last, he will do his best to obtain what he desires. So upon the whole, I can't but think there is reason to hope for redemption from our present Spanish bondage, by one mean or other."

Same to same, April 15, 1748. [Extract.] "The satisfaction which your Excellency has from a Royal justification of your past conduct, your being re-settled in a pleasant and fruitful country, among a kind and respectful people, and situated on the banks of the American Euphrates, with your other fine accommodations, are all very desirable circumstances; and to what pitch of contentment can't your Excellency's wisdom and piety heighten them, though the salary and perquisites are not such as perhaps were expected, and might be reasonably wished for. And, as to the want of conversation, *might not that defect be, in some measure, repaired by a lady from Boston, New-York, or Philadelphia*, if none in the Jerseys to your taste; and can it be, that a gentlewoman of a suitable age and fortune, who would be one spirit as well as one flesh with you, could fail to sweeten the remains of life? The religious remark your Excellency makes on the length of your shadows, the decline of your sun, and your few remaining lands, is a good instruction to me, (and perhaps was so intended) which I hope I shall properly apply, and that it won't prove a fruitless lesson.—What your Excellency says of renewing our correspondence, and your kind mention of my family, with your wishes for our prosperity, I esteem as a renewed mark of your goodness to me and mine. I have but two sons left, out of eight children, viz: *Thomas*, who has pitched his tent at *Cochecho*, for the present, and *George*, who yet remains with me."

Same to same, July 1, 1748. [Extracts.] "It is vastly agreeable to me to hear of your Excellency's ease and prosperity, and therefore what you have been pleased to hint in relation thereto, gives me great pleasure, particularly the mutual benevolence subsisting between you and your assembly, which I pray God may continue to the end of your administration, and that to the end of your life, unless Providence should open a way for your Excellency's removal to another seat that may be more to your liking.

"My kinsman was badly used indeed, especially by the *Learned*, whose military honor and profits are owing to him, as he was the projector and promoter of the expedition, and without which it would never have been. But this is no new thing under the sun. Ingratitude is of ancient date, and baseness, false pretences and treachery to benefactors are not of yesterday. I have had ill treatment of this kind myself, and I presume your Excellency has had that which has been much more so.

———"I well know the new feather hunter is a *weakling* as well as *sapling*, but what then? we want his money to oust *Diego*, which is my principal aim; and if he should be successor, as he is honest, well principled and well meaning, though he should not be able to go alone, he may be well conducted in leading strings, for the public advantage. A friend once advised a lady not to marry her daughter to a rich gentleman, because, though rich, he was a simpleton. She replied, "So much the better for my daughter to make a fool of." I don't mean to apply this in full to the present case, though it may suit in part.

"The matter of the complaint against the Don, is in his first acts of government, namely, issuing a proclamation for continuance of officers civil as well as military—he denied the Council to join with him; that he suspended a commission without advice of the council; that he made judges without their advice; that he with the council have issued letters patent, as he calls them, to supersede a law which he with the council and assembly passed but a few months before; that he with the council, and without the assembly, have given a company of settlers in the wilderness an authority to make taxes and levy them; that he, with the council, and without the assembly, have incorporated a parish, reserving the presentation of the first minister to the President and Fellows of the College, or to Mr. Fitch and Mr. Odlin; that he has taken a 100,000 old tenor out of the Treasury, without any law to pay the Canada troops, and that after

there was an order from the Crown to dismiss those troops, he made a new promotion of officers to reserve the pay, and appointed his eldest son a Major, and his two others Captains, and one of his brother's children of 10 years old, a Lieutenant or an Ensign, and the Negroes of those families in all, some by blood, marriage or friendship, to be drummers, barbers, and what not. And to facilitate the accomplishment of the iniquity, some of the officers have been cashiered, and almost all reduced, which has occasioned a universal uneasiness, and will bring a good number of subscribers to the complaint. Moreover, we have had no assembly since the 4th, and on the next choice, are not without of having a majority of those, who will enforce a complaint and address themselves for a removal."

(To be continued.)

MISCELLANIES.



In November, 1778, an act passed the government of New-Hampshire, to prevent the return to this state of certain persons, who had left the state and joined with the enemies thereof. In case of their voluntary return without leave first had and obtained, they were on conviction before the Superior Court of Judicature, to suffer the pains of *Death*. The following is a list of their names. Those with a star, by a subsequent act, had their estates confiscated.

*John Wentworth, Esq., Peter Levius, Esq., John Fisher, Esq., *George Meserve, Esq., Robert Trail, Esq., George Boyd, Esq., John Fenton, Esq., *John Cockran, Esq., Samuel Hale Jr. Esq., Edward Parry, Esq., *Thomas McDonough, Esq., Maj. Robert Rogers, Andrew Pepperell Sparhawk, alias Andrew Pepperell, Esq., Patrick Burn, John Smith, *William Johnson Rysam, Stephen Little, Thomas Achincloss, Archibald Achincloss, Robert Robinson, Hugh Henderson, Gilliam Butler, *James McMasters, *John McMasters, George Craige, James Bigby, William Peavey, Benjamin Hart, Bartholomew Stavers, Phillip Bayley, Samuel Holland, Esq., *Benning Wentworth, Jude Kennison, Jonathan Dix, *Robert Luist Fowle, Benjamin Thompson, Esq., Jacob Brown, George Bell, *Stephen Holland, Esq., Richard Holland, John Davidson, James Fulton, Thomas Smith, Dennis O'Hala, *Edward Goldstone Lutwyche, Esq., *Samuel Cummings, Esq., *Benjamin Whiting, Esq., Thomas Cummings, *William Stark, Esq., John Stark, *John Stinson, John Stinson, Jr., Samuel Stinson, Jeremiah Bowen, *Zacheus Cutler, John Holland, *Daniel Farnsworth, *John

Quigley, Esq., John Morrison, *Josiah Pomroy, *Elijah Williams, Esq., Thomas Cutler, Eleazer Sanger, Robert Gilmore, *Breed Batchelder. Simeon Baxter, William Baxter, Soloman Willard, Jesse Rice, *Enos Stevens, Phineas Stevens, Solomon Stephens, Levi Willard, *John Brooks, Josiah Jones and Simeon Jones.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE LOYALTY IN 1734.

"*Portsmouth, May 27, 1734.*—Upon the occasion of the illustrious marriage of the Princess Royal of Great-Britain with his Serene Highness the Prince of Orange, his Excellency our Governour sent an order to his Honour the Lieut. Gov. to fire the Castle Guns, as an expression of the joy of this Government and people; and to consult with his Majesty's Council how to shew the greatest respect to his Majesty and the Royal Family on so great and happy an event. Accordingly the Council were convened, and it appearing that there was hardly any powder in the stores, the matter dropt thro' for that day. The Major part of the Council, esteeming it a point of duty to his Majesty and to themselves, to celebrate the Royal Nuptials in the best manner they could, sundry of them, with most of the civil and military officers of the town, and a considerable number of private gentlemen met at the King's Arms tavern on the 24th instant, where they expressed their hearty zeal and loyalty to his Majesty, and joy on the happy occasion in *royal* and *loyal* healths, with volleys of small arms and the beat of drums; and the very populace were not wanting IN THEIR WAY to manifest their rejoicings.—*Old MSS.*

"*Portsmouth, in New-Hampshire, October 25, 1737.* On Wednesday last, his Excellency our governor attended by several of the members of his majesty's council, and a considerable number of civil and military officers and private gentlemen, went down Pascataqua river in several boats, passing by his majesty's Castle William and Mary, the flag being hoisted, landed at the Hon. Col. Pepperell's in Kittery, where his Excellency met with a most respectful reception, and was (with his attendants) entertained in a very generous and handsome manner. His Excellency forbid the salute of the Castle guns, ordering the small store of powder in that fortress to be reserved for the happy anniversary of his majesty's birth day, on the 30th instant. In the evening, his Excellency returned to Portsmouth, and the next day, viz. Thursday the 24th, set out for Boston, with a

vast train of attendants. The form of the cavalcade was as follows, Capt. Downing's troop were in front, preceded by the officers of the foot and private gentlemen, by twos, next to them went the under sheriffs, after them the high sheriffs with their wands, then went his Excellency in his chaise with the Hon. Col. and Lieut. Col. of the first regiment on his right and left hand, next to the chaise went the members of his majesty's council, and Capt. Roby's troop brought up the rear. His Excellency's first stop was at the sign of the Horse in Hampton, where he was pleased graciously to regale his attendants. And then moving forward, was met on the province line, by sundry gentlemen of the Massachusetts and Salisbury troops."—*Old MS.*

"*Portsmouth, in New-Hampshire, October 14, 1737.* Friday last, being the anniversary of his majesty's coronation, his Excellency the governor, (in honor of the day) was pleased to invite his majesty's council and house of representatives, (then convened in general assembly) to a regale at the Green Dragon tavern in this town, whither they attended his Excellency, in a body from the court house, and being entertained with a handsome supper, spent the remainder of the evening in loyal healths."—*Old MS.*

FOREFATHERS' SONG.

[Composed about the year 1630, taken *memoriter* in 1791, from the lips of an old lady, at the advanced age of 92.]

1.

The place where we live is a wilderness wood,
Where grass is much wanting that's fruitful and good ;
Our mountains and hills and our vallies below,
Being commonly covered with ice and with snow :
And when the north-west wind with violence blows,
Then every man pulls his cap over his nose ;
But if any's so hardy and will it withstand,
He forfeits a finger, a foot or a hand.

2.

But when the spring opens, we then take the hoe,
And make the ground ready to plant and to sow ;
Our corn being planted, and seed being sown,
The worms destroy much before it is grown ;
And when it is growing some spoil there is made,
By birds and by squirrels that pluck up the blade ;
And when it is come to full corn in the ear,
It is after destroyed by racoon and by deer.

3.

And now our old garments begin to grow thin,
And wool is much wanted to card and to spin;
If we can get a garment to cover *without*,
Our other *in* garments are clout upon clout;*
Our clothes we brought with us are apt to be torn,
They need to be clouted soon after they're worn;
But clouting our garments they hinder us nothing,
Clouts double, are warmer than single whole clothing.

4.

If fresh meat be wanting to fill up our dish,
We have carrots and pumpkins and turnips and fish;
And is there a mind for a *delicate* dish?
We repair to the clam banks and *there* we catch fish,
Instead of pottage and puddings and custards and pies,
Our pumpkins and parsnips are common supplies;
We have pumpkins at morning and pumpkins at noon,
If it was not for pumpkins we should be undone.

5.

If barley be wanting to make into malt,
We must be contented and think it no fault;
For we can make liquor to sweeten our lips,
Of pumpkins and parsnips and walnut tree chips.
(*Four lines wanting.*)

6.

Now while some are going, let others be coming,
For while liquor's a boiling it must have a scumming;
But I will not blame them, for birds of a feather,
By seeking their fellows are flocking together.
But you whom the Lord intends hither to bring,
Forsake not the honey for fear of the sting;
But bring both a quiet and contented mind,
And all needful blessings you surely will find.

* Clout signifies patching.



The following is a poetical description of the Trees in New-England,
written in 1639.

Trees both in hills and plains in plenty be,
The long-liv'd oak, and mournful cyprus tree;
Sky-towering pines, and chesnuts coated rough,
The lasting cedar, with the walnut tough;
The rosin-dropping fir, for masts in use,
The boatmen seek for oars, light, neat grown spruce;
The brittle ash, the ever-trembling asps,
The broad-spread elm, whose concave harbours wasps;
The water spungy alder good for nought,
Small eldern by the Indian fletchers sought;

The knotty maple, palled birch, hawthorns,
The horn-bound tree that to be cloven scorns,
Which from the tender vine oft takes his spouse,
Who twines embracing arms about his boughs.

Within this Indian orchard fruits be some,
The ruddy cherry, and the jetty plumb;
Snake-murthering hazel, with sweet saxaphrage,
Whose spurns in beer allays hot fever's rage;
The dear shumac, with more trees there be
That are both good to use, and rare to see.

Bill of Mortality, for Exeter, N. H. A. D. 1823.

By JOSEPH TILTON, M. D.

Complaints.	Ages.	MALES.	FEMALES.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	TOTAL.
Old Age.	{ 76 : 76 : 72 : 77 : 85 : 77 : }	5	6	2	—	1	2	1	2	—	1	—	1	—	1	11
	{ 85 : 83 : 70 : 79 : 77 }															
Consump.	30 : 50 : 44 : 58 : 14 : 8m. 50y	3	4	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	—	—	7
Typhus Fever,	15 : 49y.	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Palsy,	71y.	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Croup,	2 : 4y.	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Measles,	2y. 10m.	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Marasmus,	10m	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dropsy of Head,	17y.	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Apthea,	21d.	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Mortification,	21 : 58y	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Convulsions,	3d. : 3w. : 1 : 8y.	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	4
Dysentery,	58y.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Quinsy,	55y	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Cholera Morbus,	5y. : 15m.	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Apoplexy,	52 : 66y.	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Dropsy,	55 : 64y.	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
		18	24	3	6	3	3	2	5	3	5	3	2	1	6	42

Marriages, 27 — Births—Males, 23 — Females, 27. — Still born, 2.

Summary of all the Bills of Mortality for the town of Exeter, from the year 1810.

Years.	Deaths.	Births.	Marriages.	Years.	Deaths.	Births.	Marriages.
1810	29	73	18	1817	17	62	19
1811	22	72	15	1818	20	68	21
1812	19	52	18	1819	32	73	21
1813	22	76	7	1820	45	69	20
1814	32	56	17	1821	24	47	23
1815	23	71	15	1822	29	64	32
1816	26	56	18	1823	42	61	27

Amount of Births in 13 years, 901. Deaths, 382. Marriages, 271.

Exeter is situated at the head of Pascataqua river, 14 miles west from Portsmouth—
containing about 2200 inhabitants.

APPENDIX.

Spirit of the Newspapers.

LORD BYRON.

GEORGE GORDON (Lord Byron) was born in 1788 ; he succeeded to his title and estates in 1798, when only ten years of age ; up to which period he lived in Aberdeenshire, and towards the close of that year he was removed to Harrow, his mother being induced to leave Scotland by the demise of the former Lord Byron. It is not our purpose to say any thing of the conduct of the honorable Captain J. Byron, the deceased poet and philanthropist, but that, soon after his marriage, and the birth of his only son, he died, leaving his widow in no very flourishing circumstances, as regards pecuniary matters. Her conduct, however, was most exemplary, and if his lordship intended to depict his mother as Donna Inez, in his *Don Juan*, as has been said by one of our cotemporaries, and, indeed, generally understood, to us it appears that he has dealt with undue severity with his parent. His Lordship was born on his mother's estate, about 30 miles from Aberdeen, to which city both of them removed, on the death of his father, when he was but two years old. In Aberdeen his mother lived in almost perfect seclusion, on account of the great deterioration of her property by the extravagance of her deceased husband, for her high spirit would not suffer her to apply to his family for the slightest allowance, although her own was scanty indeed. She kept no company, but was regarded and esteemed by all who knew her, and her amiable disposition and manners were particularly shown towards all those whom she thought fit to associate in reading or in sports with her darling son. He was her darling son, for we have seen her, when he has only been going out for an ordinary walk, entreat him, with the tear glistening in her eye, to take care of himself, as "she had nothing on earth but him to live for ;" a circumstance not at all pleasing to his adventurous spirit, the more especially as some of his companions, who witnessed the affecting scene, would, at school, or at their sports, make light of it, and ridicule him about it. The Hon. Mrs. Byron, had a beautiful countenance, but was rather a *petite* figure, and had somewhat too much of the *enbon-point*. She was naturally a woman of spirit and gaiety, but we never understood that her genius lay chiefly in the "mathematical," or that, "her wit was attic all," which his lordship attributes to that of Donna Inez.

George Byron Gordon was the appellation by which he was known to his school-fellows in Aberdeen, and if any of them, by accident or design, reversed the latter words, he was very indignant at it, on account of the neglect with which his father's family had all along treated his mother.

At the age of seven years, his lordship, whose previous instruction in the English language had been his mother's sole task, was sent to the Grammar School at Aberdeen, where he continued till his removal to Harrow, with the exception of some intervals of absence, which were deemed necessary for the establishment of his health, by a temporary removal to the Highlands of Aberdeenshire; his constitution being always, (while a boy) uncommonly delicate, his mind painfully sensitive, but his heart transcendantly warm and kind. Here it was he delighted in "the mountain and the flood," and here it was that he imbibed that spirit of freedom, and that love for "the land of his Scottish sires," which nothing could tear from his heart. Here it was that he felt himself without restraint, even in dress; and on his return to school, which, by the bye, he always did with the utmost willingness, it was with much difficulty that his mother could induce him to quit the kilt and the plaid, in compliance with the manners of the town; but the bonnet he would never leave off, until it could be no longer worn.

At school his progress never was so distinguished above that of the general run of his class-fellows, as after those occasional intervals of absence, when he would in a few days run through (and well too) exercises, which, according to the school routine, had taken weeks to accomplish. But when he had overtaken the rest of his class, he contented himself with being considered a tolerable scholar, without making any violent exertion to be placed at the head of the first form. It was out of school that he aspired to be the leader of every thing. In all the boyish sports and amusements, he would be the first if possible. For this he was eminently calculated. Candid, sincere, a lover of stern and inflexible truth, quick, enterprising, and daring, his mind was capable of overcoming those impediments which nature had thrown in his way, by making his constitution and body weak, and by a mal-conformation of one of his feet. Nevertheless, no boy could outstrip him in the race or in swimming. Even at that early period (from eight to ten years of age) all his sports were of a manly character; fishing, shooting, swimming, and managing a horse, or steering and trimming the sails of a boat, constituted his chief delights; and, to the superficial observer, seemed his sole occupation. This desire for supremacy in the school games, which we have alluded to, led him into many combats, out of which he always came with honor, almost always victorious. Upon one occasion, a boy, pursued by another, took refuge in his mother's house; the latter, who had been much abused by the former, proceeded to take vengeance on him, even

on the landing place of the drawing room stairs, when young Byron came out at the noise, and insisted that the refugee should not be struck in his house, or else he must fight for him. The pursuer, "nothing loath," accepted the challenge, and they fought for nearly an hour, when both were compelled to give in, from absolute exhaustion.

The first time that Lord Byron had come to school after his accession to his title, the Rector had caused his name to be inserted in the Censor's book—Georgius Dominus de Byron, instead of Georgius Byron Gordon, as formerly. The boys, unused to this aristocratic sound, set up a loud and involuntary shout, which had such an effect on his sensitive mind, that he burst into tears, and would have fled from the school had he not been restrained by the master. A school fellow of Byron's had a very small Shetland pony, which his father had bought him, and one day they were riding and walking by turns, to the banks of the Don to bathe. When they came to the bridge, over that dark romantic stream, Byron bethought him of the prophecy which he incorrectly quotes (from memory, it is true) in one of his latter cantos of *Don Juan*.

"Brig o' Balgownie! wight's thy wa'
Wi' a wife's ae son, and a mare's ae foal,
Down shalt thou fa'."

He immediately stopped his companion, who was then riding, and asked him if he remembered the prophecy, saying, that as they were both only sons, and as the pony *might* be "a mare's ae foal," he would rather ride over first, because he had only a mother to lament him should the prophecy be fulfilled by the falling of the bridge, whereas the other had both a father and a mother to grieve after him.

Lord Byron succeeded to the title and estates on the death of William the fifth, Lord Byron, which, as we have already stated, took place in 1798, when he was only ten years of age.

Up to that period he had lived in Aberdeenshire, and it appears that the wild scenery of the spot in which he passed his early years remained always deeply engraven on his memory. In his first publication, "The Hours of Idleness," there is a poem on Lachin y Gair, to which he prefixes a short introduction, in which he says, it is "one of the most sublime and picturesque amongst our Caledonian Alps. Its appearance is of a dusky hue, but the summit is the seat of eternal snows: near Lachin y Gair, I spent some of the early part of my life."

It has been said, indeed, that the liberty he enjoyed of ranging the hills without controul, at that early period, that his frame, which was delicate, might be invigorated by air and exercise, made him ever afterwards impatient of restraint.

Towards the close of the year 1798, he was removed to Harrow. Speaking of his studies there, his Lordship says in a note to the fourth Canto of *Childe Harold*, "In some parts of the Con-

continent, young persons are taught from mere common authors, and do not read the best Classic 'till their maturity. I certainly do not speak on this point from any pique or aversion towards the plan of my education. I was not a slow, though an idle boy; and I believe no one could be more attached to Harrow than I have always been, and with reason:—a part of the time passed there, was the happiest of my life; and my preceptor [the Rev. Dr. Joseph Drury] was the best and worthiest friend I ever possessed; whose warnings I have remembered but too well, but too late when I have erred," &c.

At the age of little more than sixteen, he removed to the University of Cambridge, where he became a student of Trinity College.

At the age of nineteen, he left the University for Newstead Abbey, and the same year he gave to the world his "Hours of Idleness."

Among the early amusements of his Lordship, were swimming and managing a boat, in both of which he is said to have acquired great dexterity, even in his childhood. In his aquatic exercises, near Newstead Abbey, he had seldom any other companion than a large Newfoundland dog, to try whose sagacity and fidelity, he would sometimes fall out of the boat, as if by accident, when the dog would seize him and drag him ashore. On losing this dog, in the autumn of 1808, his Lordship caused a monument to be erected, commemorative of its attachment, with an inscription, from which we extract the following lines:

"Ye who, perchance, behold this simple urn
Pass on—it honors none you wish to mourn!
To mark a friend's remains these stones arise—
I never knew but one, and here he lies."

On arriving at the age of manhood, Lord Byron embarked at Falmouth for Lisbon, and from thence proceeded across the peninsula to the Mediterranean, in company with Mr. Hobhouse.

The travels of his Lordship are described in "Childe Harold" and the Notes. It is somewhat singular that his Lordship should then have had a narrow escape from a fever in the vicinity of the place where he has just ended his life:—

"When, in 1810," he says, "after the departure of my friend, Mr. Hobhouse, for England, I was seized with a severe fever in the Morea; these men [Albanians] saved my life by frightening away my physician, whose throat they threatened to cut, if I was not cured within a given time. To this consolatory assurance of posthumous retribution, and a resolute refusal of Dr. Romanelli's prescriptions, I attribute my recovery. I had left my last remaining English servant at Athens; my dragoman or interpreter was as ill as myself, and my poor arnaouts nursed me with an attention which would have done honor to civilization."

While the Salsette frigate, in which Lord Byron was a passenger to Constantinople, lay in the Dardanelles, a discourse arose

among some of the officers respecting the practicability of swimming across the Hellespont. Lord Byron and Lieut. Ekenhead agreed to make the trial—they accordingly attempted this enterprise on the 3d of May, 1810. The following is the account given of it by his Lordship.

“The whole distance from Abydos, the place whence we started, to our landing at Sestos on the other side, including the length we were carried by the current, was computed by those on board the frigate at upwards of four English miles; though the actual breadth is barely one. The rapidity of the current is such that no boat can row directly across; and it may in some measure be estimated from the circumstance of the whole distance being accomplished by one of the parties in an hour and five, and by the other in an hour and ten minutes. The water was extremely cold from the melting of the mountain snows.—About three weeks before, we had made an attempt, but having ridden all the way from the Troad the same morning, and the water being of an icy chillness, we found it necessary to postpone the completion till the frigate anchored below the castles, when we swam the Straits, as just stated, entering a considerable way above the European, and landing below the Asiatic fort. Chevalier says that a young Jew swam the same distance for his mistress; and Olivier mentions its having been done by a Neapolitan; but our Consul at Tarragona remembered neither of those circumstances, and tried to dissuade us from the attempt. A number of the Salsette’s crew were known to have accomplished a greater distance; and the only thing that surprised me was, that as doubts had been entertained of the truth of Leander’s story, no traveller had ever endeavoured to ascertain its practicability.”

This notable adventure was, however, followed by a fit of the ague.

He returned to England, after an absence of nearly three years, and the first two Cantos of “Childe Harold” made their appearance a few months afterwards. To this poem, in rapid succession, followed “The Giaour” and “The Bride of Abydos,” two Turkish stories; and while the world was as yet divided in opinion, as to which of these three pieces the palm was due, he produced his beautiful poem of “The Corsair.”

On the 2d of January, 1815, his Lordship married at Seham, in the County of Durham, the only daughter of Sir Ralph Milbank Noel, Baronet, and towards the close of the same year his lady brought him a daughter. Within a few weeks, however, after that event, a separation took place, for which various causes have been stated. This difference excited a prodigious sensation at the time. His Lordship, while the public anxiety as to the course he would adopt, was at its height, suddenly left the kingdom with the resolution never to return.

He crossed over to France, through which he passed rapidly to Brussels, taking in his way a survey of the field of Waterloo.

He proceeded to Coblenz, and thence up the Rhine as far as Basle. After visiting some of the most remarkable scenes in Switzerland, he proceeded to the north of Italy. He took up his abode for some time at Venice, where he was joined by Mr. Hobhouse, who accompanied him in an excursion to Rome, where he completed his "Childe Harold."

At Venice, Lord Byron avoided, as much as possible, all intercourse with his countrymen. He quitted that city, and took up his residence in other parts of the Austrian dominions in Italy, which he quitted for Tuscany. He was joined by the late Mr. Shelley, and afterwards by Mr. Leigh Hunt.

His patrimonial estate received lately a large increase, by the death of lady Byron's mother, and a valuable coal mine, said to be worth £50,000, had been discovered on his Rochdale estate before he left England, so that at his death, he must have been in the possession of a large income.

The journey of his lordship to Greece, and the part he has acted in that country, will endear his memory to every friend of liberty.

One production of his lordship, will be looked for with more anxiety than any of his former publications. We allude to his *Life*, written by himself, which he gave to his friend, Mr. Thomas Moore, and which has been some time in this country. If report is to be credited, Lord Byron has, in this work, examined himself with an unsparing severity, of which few men are capable.

The following particulars will fill up all that is known of the death of this nobleman:—

On the 9th of April, Lord Byron, who had been living very low, exposed himself in a violent rain; the consequence of which was a severe cold, and he was immediately confined to his bed. The low state to which he had been reduced by his abstinence, and probably by some of the remaining effects of his previous illness, made him unwilling—at any rate he refused to submit—to be bled. It is to be lamented, that no one was near his lordship who had sufficient influence over his mind, or was himself sufficiently aware of the necessity of the case, to induce him to submit to that remedy, which, in all human probability, would have saved a life so valuable to Greece. The inflammatory action, unchecked, terminated fatally on the 19th of April.

There are no letters of his lordship's of a date subsequent to the commencement of his illness. The friends who were near him at the time of his decease, in addition to Prince Mavrocordato, were Mr. Parry, who had organized the artillery and engineer corps for the Greeks at Missolonghi, Mr. Bourke and Count Gamba. The letters from the last named gentleman first communicated the intelligence to Lord Sidney Osborne, who forwarded it with the kindest attention to the friends of Lord Byron in England, and proceeded from Corfu to Zante, to make whatever arrangements might be necessary respecting his remains.

Lord Byron had succeeded, his friends are informed, in stirring up among the people of the part of Greece in which he had resided, an almost inconceivable enthusiasm. His exertions were incessant in their cause, and the gratitude of the people was proportioned to them. His influence was not lessened by being employed often to procure humane, even kind treatment towards the Turkish captives. On the day of Lord Byron's death, and when he appeared in imminent danger, the Prince Mavrocordato wrote to his lordship's friend and companion, Count Gamba, requesting that a Committee might be immediately appointed to take necessary measures for the security of his property; in consequence of which, four gentlemen have been nominated to act until other arrangements can be made.

One of the letters from Corfu, received on Saturday, and dated April 23, states, that Lord Byron died, possessed of considerable property in Greece, having for some time resolved to pass his life there, and received considerable sums from England for the purpose of investment. The Honorable Leicester Stanhope had signified his intention of quitting Greece for family affairs in this country, but he had received a pressing invitation from Prince Mavrocordato to remain; and Major Hastings, a gentleman who has been for some time there, has also had inducements offered to him to remain firm to the cause which he has so mainly assisted. We understand that Colocotroni, one of the bravest Greek Generals, but who had thrown great impediments in the way of Greek Independence, by his jealousy of Ypsilanti and Mavrocordato, had endeavored for some time to prevent the employment of foreign auxiliaries. This man, however, being abandoned by his troops, and wandering, it is said, among the mountains, has no longer any influence, and our countrymen in Greece are likely to feel the effect of his disgrace, beneficially for their interests.

P. S. MAY 19. The memoirs, above alluded to, are lost to the world forever. This posthumous record of the deceased nobleman, had been deposited, as our readers may have informed themselves, in the keeping of Mr. Thomas Moore, and designed as a legacy for his benefit. This gentleman, with the consent, and at the desire of Lord Byron, had long ago sold or pledged the manuscript to Mr. Murray, for the large sum of £2000. Since the death of Lord Byron, it occurred to the sensitive and honorable mind of Mr. Moore, that, by possibility, although the noble author himself had given full authority for a disclosure of the document, some of his family might be wounded or shocked by it. He, therefore, appointed a time for meeting a near connexion of the noble Lord, (not Lady Byron) and after a deliberate and joint perusal of the work, finding that this Lady apprehended from it much pain to the minds of many persons still living, though no sort of imputation on her brother's memory, Mr. Moore, with a spirit and generosity which the better part of mankind will be at no loss to appreciate, placed the manuscript in the lady's hands,

and permitted her to burn it in his presence! This sacrifice of self-interest to lofty feeling, was made the day before yesterday; and the next morning the £2000 was repaid to Mr. Murray by Lord Byron's self-destituted legatee.—The last words of that nobleman, before the delirium which seized his powerful mind, within three days of his death, were—"I wish it to be known, that my last thoughts were given to my wife, my child, and my sister."—*London Times*.

MONTHLY REGISTER OF DEATHS,

WITH CONCISE BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

In Plymouth, N. H. May 3, 1824, Col. DAVID WEBSTER, aged 85 years. Col. W. was a native of Hollis, and one of the first settlers of Plymouth. At the time of his migration, the country was desert between Haverhill and Boscaawen, except a few log tents pitched at Plymouth. From Boscaawen to Plymouth there was not road or path for man or horse. Guided by spotted trees, Col. Webster with his wife and little child, set out on foot in the winter to reach their solitary settlement. They encamped one night in the woods, near what is now New-Chester, and slept under the trunk of a fallen hemlock. He drew a large and heavy chest of drawers from Boscaawen to Plymouth on a hand-sled: the chest is now in the possession of one of his descendants. He pitched near the mouth of Baker's river, and became proprietor of the valuable interval lands, which as the settlements increased grew a handsome estate. Col. Webster was the first sheriff of Grafton county. The duties of his office he performed reputably and faithfully, and continued to exercise them until he reached the age when he was disqualified to hold the office by the constitution. He was an enterprising, liberal, honest and useful man. He was promoted to the rank of Colonel in the militia at a time when such rank was evidence of a high degree of public confidence. The revolutionary war was then fresh in the mind of every man, and militia officers were chosen with reference to actual service, into which men thought they were liable to be called. The mustering of a regiment put them in mind of Bunker's Hill and Saratoga. Col. Webster possessed the resolute spirit and had the powerful constitution necessary and peculiar to settlers. He retained a remarkable degree of health and vigor until very near the close of his long life. He had survived nearly all of his fellow settlers, and passed his latter years in the midst of a new generation. *Concord Register*.

In Cranston, R. I. Gen. CHRISTOPHER LIPPITT, aged 80. He was one of the early advocates and firmest supporters of our efforts for independence, and a gentleman distinguished in the early part of his life for the discharge of numerous civil and military offices with which he was invested by the government of his native state, and by the father of his country. In September, 1776, when the regiment under his command was called for by Gen. Washington, he took a continental commission, and left Rhode Island for the camp of the commander in chief at Harlaem Heights, and was engaged under General Lee in the battle on White Plains, and was afterwards under the immediate command of Gen. Washington in the engagements at Trenton and Princeton. At this time he received a brevet Brigadier General's commission from Gen. Washington, and soon after his term of service expired, and he returned home. He afterwards received a Brigadier General's commission from the Governor of R. Island, and was shortly after in the engagement on Rhode Island.

In Johnston, R. I. after a few hours sickness, Hon. ISAAC FISKE, an associate Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court of Rhode Island.

In Thomaston, Me. Mrs. LUCY KNOX, relict of the late General Knox, and daughter of the Hon. J. Flacker, formerly Secretary of the province of Massachusetts, aged 68. Mrs. Knox possessed strong mental powers, and by extensive reading, acquired much useful information, which rendered her conversation highly interesting. She left her father's family, from attachment to Mr. Knox, and accompanied him to the American camp. She was his constant companion through the war of the revolution; endured many privations, and ever manifested an ardent attachment to her brave and worthy husband.

From Sullivan's Journal of the Arts and Sciences, published at New Haven.

Notice of Morse's New School Geography and Atlas—Richardson & Lord, Boston. The present edition with much labor and care has been taken into a new draft, and all the modern improvements of importance have been introduced. In this Work the World is represented under three distinct plans—1. An introductory view of each quarter or grand division of the globe, 2. A view of each Country in detail, 3. General Views, or Recapitulations. The General Views occupy about one third of the Work, and constitute the features which particularly distinguish it from former editions, and which give it a decided preference over other School Geographies. All that is important relating to the population, commerce, literature, religion, &c. of the countries of the world, is here condensed, explained by remarks, and accompanied by questions, so as to render it easy for the youth to understand. The General Views are followed by fifty pages of Questions on the Maps of the Atlas. The Atlas contains 8 Maps, viz. Of the Globe, Europe, Asia, Africa, North America, South America, the United States, and the British Islands. These are corrected by the authors, and are very neatly engraved and colored.

This Compend of School Geography, we understand from the Public Report of the Superintendent of Schools in the State of New York, has been examined by him, and recommended for general use in the schools throughout that State. So far as our knowledge extends, we think his judgment and decision wise, and that the work will prove extensively beneficial.

Theological Seminary, Andover, July 18, 1821.

Having examined, as extensively as our engagements would permit, "A New Abridgment of the American Universal Geography," by Jedidiah Morse, B. D. and Sidney Edwards Morse, A. M., we have no hesitation in saying, that we think it possesses great merit. With a labor which Authors rarely bestow on new editions, this Work appears to have been entirely re-written, and that with much care and ability. The simplicity and brevity of its style—the various and interesting matter which it contains—and the excellency of its arrangement, must make it very valuable, not only as a school book for youth, but as a convenient manual for occasional use to men of reading. The *System of Questions* running through the Work, and the *General Views*, at its close, must greatly increase its usefulness to learners in Geography.

E. PORTER,
L. WOODS,
J. MURDOCK.

*From the Superintendent of Public Schools throughout the State of New York,
and Secretary of State, J. V. N. Yates, Esq.*

Rev. Jedidiah Morse—Sir, I acknowledge with much pleasure the receipt of your "New Abridgment of the American Universal Geography," and the *Atlas* intended as a companion to that Work—having devoted some time to the examination of both, I think I am enabled to pronounce upon their respective merits. Viewing them as Works intended for the use of our seminaries of education, I consider them well adapted to that object, and deserving of public attention. I shall be pleased in learning that these Works are introduced into our schools, and that the labor you have bestowed upon them will be abundantly repaid by the harvest of usefulness they shall produce.

I am, Rev. and Dear Sir, very respectfully, Your most obedient servant,
J. V. N. YATES.

From the Boston Recorder.

Much is promised in this delineation of the Author's plan—but not more than is fulfilled. After referring to various parts of the Work for our own satisfaction, as to the fidelity of the execution, we can say with confidence, that the reasonable expectations of the public will not be disappointed. They will find the proposed arrangement preserved—the important facts stated with great perspicuity—and nothing inserted which could be omitted, without detracting from the value of the Work.

What has ever seemed to us a great deficiency in one of the most popular School Geographies now in use, is here supplied, viz. a description of boundaries and rivers.

In another and very important point of view, this Work may fairly claim the superiority over all others of the kind, that have fallen under my observation—we allude to its accurate delineation of the moral and religious characters of heathen nations, together with its condensed, but distinct statement of the various and extent of means now in operation to bring the whole world into subjection to Christ. At the present period, information of this kind is essential to the perfection of any system of Geography. Every passing day increases its necessity; and it will not be long before the religious features of the earth will command the attention of the Geographer, as a primary, rather than a secondary object.

The whole is evidently "the result of much labor and study," and deserves to be patronized by the public, for the well digested mass of information it furnishes on all the common topics of the Geographer, and particularly for the light it throws on the moral condition of mankind.

Having, for about two years past, made use almost exclusively of the New System of Modern Geography, by the Rev. J. and S. E. Morse, in the Academy of which I have the superintendence, I do not hesitate to give it a decided preference to any other system designed for the use of schools, so far as my acquaintance with such publications extends; and, in a long course of instruction, I believe I have seen most others which have been published in this country. Among the numerous excellencies of this work, so admirably fitted for the purpose intended, I would mention particularly its judicious selection of matter, its happy arrangement, and its perspicuous style. For its size also, I think it will be found to contain more valuable knowledge than any other Geography extant. As a school book, it could not, with usefulness, perhaps be larger; and yet it has been compiled with such judgment and discrimination, that very little indeed could be omitted without manifest detriment. The "General Views" are a most valuable addition to the work. Nothing which I have ever seen in geographical publications is in my opinion, so well adapted to facilitate and enlarge the student's knowledge of this useful science.

The numerous and well selected Questions at the end of the book, are designed to direct the attention of the student, in his review of this study; to things most important to be remembered, and are well suited to this end.

They serve also very much to lessen the labor of the instructor. The Atlas accompanying the work, evinces much care and accuracy, and is peculiarly excellent.

ROBERT BELDEN,
Preceptor of Fairfield Academy.

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